



CONGRESSMAN CURT WELDON

7th District Pennsylvania



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**STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE CURT WELDON
CHAIRMAN, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE HEARING

April 9, 1997

Gentlemen, I appreciate you being here today and look forward to hearing your candid views on UAVs.

After what I hope will be a very complete background briefing, you will have an opportunity to discuss your views on this key reconnaissance technology in a forum which includes representatives of those who generate and validate operational requirements, those who develop and acquire UAV systems, and those who use such systems operationally.

Your comments should not only address the performance of specific UAVs themselves, but more importantly the process which has failed to clearly develop and validate user requirements, and the acquisition process that has repeatedly failed to successfully deliver operational UAVs to the warfighter.

Gentlemen, this great nation, that put men on the moon, ought to be able to successfully develop affordable UAVs that meet the requirements of our military forces.

I look forward to your testimony.